[TFR 24-1]

To the Chairman of the Joint Commission on resolving the fates of US citizens missing on the territory of the USSR during and after the Second World War; General-Colonel Volkogonov D.A.

Regarding results of work in the SVR Archives.

Dear Dimitri Antonovich,

In accordance with the directions of the Director of the Foreign Intelligence Service [SVR], and with the goals and tasks of the Joint Russian-American Commission, the following work was done on resolving the fate of American prisoners of war and missing in action:

1. Information was found in SVR archival material pertaining to the years 1950-1951, on 510 US Army servicemen and 27 persons of unknown citizenship, that were held prisoner in the PDRK. The stated information was received from the Koreans and Chinese and is based on records of interrogations of American servicemen, in which Soviet intelligence representatives did not participate. We do not know their fate.

The Director of the SVR gave a list of these American service members and persons of unknown citizenship to the Chairman of the US Senate Commission, B. Kerry, at a meeting in Moscow in Feb 92.

2. The SVR does not have any data available on American aircraft that had violated the State border during the "cold" war period and were shot down over the territory of the former USSR. Neither do we have information about the crews of those aircraft. This type of information is not stored in the intelligence archives.

3. Source materials were searched for the 3752 individuals indicated on the list, passed by the American side, of POWs/MIAs from the war in Indo-China. No information has been found which might shed light on their fate. Please note that at the same time, more than 25% of the people on the list are reported as having returned to the US after being released. Afterwards, many of them occupied various positions in official American establishments.

[TFR 24-2]

During the previously mentioned meeting, the Director of the [Foreign Intelligence] Service afforded American Senators Kerry and Smith the opportunity to meet with former intelligence operatives O. Nechiporenko and S. Sorokin, one of the KGB chiefs, headquartered in Hanoi during this period. During the conversation, over the course of successive public appearances by the SVR representative, it was repeatedly emphasized that Soviet intelligence did not have contacts with American POWs in Vietnam, except for one incident in 1973, when O. Nechiporenko had a one- time meeting with the US CIA employee Yu. A. Vivir [J. A. Weaver], who was a prisoner held by the Vietnamese since 1968. The American side was informed of the facts and disposition of this meeting.

We would especially like to emphasize that dozens of service employees were required to search available materials that could shed light on the fate of American citizens who were taken prisoner and missing in action, and that the SVR Director and his deputies were regularly informed of the results.

We are prepared to render maximum cooperation in the future to the Joint Commission headed by yourself and M. Toon, who was informed of this in detail by E. M. Primakov and his deputy V. M. Rozhkovyj during the extensive meeting in June of this year.

Respectfully,

Chief of SVR Department
Colonel A.P. Belozerov